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SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT QUESTIONS

Report of the Social Committee

1. The Social Committee considered social development questions (agenda item 19) at its 12th to 20th meetings, from 20 to 24 and on 27 July 1992. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretary-General on the continuation of the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons (A/47/214-E/1992/50);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the status and role of cooperatives in the light of new economic and social trends (A/47/216-E/1992/43);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the draft framework for the 1993 report on the world social situation (E/1992/17);

(d) Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its first session (E/1992/30 and Add.1); 1/

(e) Note by the Secretary-General on the world summit for social development (E/1992/80).

2. At the 12th to 18th meetings, the Committee held a general discussion on the item. At the 12th meeting, on 20 July, the Committee heard introductory statements by the Director of the Social Development Division of the Centre

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1/ To be issued as Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1992, Supplement No. 10.

for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs and the Assistant Director, Chief of the Development Analysis Branch of the Department of Economic and Social Development.

3. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Bahrain and Benin and the observer for Mongolia.

4. At the 13th meeting, on 21 July, an introductory statement was made by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the World Summit for Social Development.

5. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Argentina and China and the observer for the Bahamas. The observer for the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, category I, also made a statement.

6. At the 14th meeting, on 21 July, statements were made by the representatives of Togo, Guinea, Spain and Ecuador.

7. At the 15th meeting, on 22 July, statements were made by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community), Japan, Austria, Peru, Australia, Turkey, Ethiopia and Belgium and the observer for Iceland (on behalf of the Nordic countries).

8. At the 16th meeting, on 22 July, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America, Suriname, Germany, Pakistan, Kuwait, Bulgaria and Morocco and the observer for Costa Rica. The representative of the International Labour Organisation also made a statement.

9. At the 17th meeting, on 23 July, statements were made by the representatives of France, Australia (on behalf also of Canada and New Zealand), the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Algeria, Jamaica and Kuwait and the observers for Venezuela (on behalf also of Colombia and Mexico), Azerbaijan, the Netherlands and Cuba. The representative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization also made a statement.

10. At the 18th meeting, on 23 July, statements were made by the representatives of Canada, Brazil, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Belarus, India, Austria, Poland, the Russian Federation, the Philippines and Madagascar and the observers for Ukraine, Nicaragua and Côte d'Ivoire.

Recommendations contained in the report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

11. Chapter I of the report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its first session (E/1992/30) contained three draft resolutions and one decision recommended for adoption by the Council. It also contained two resolutions of the Commission that called for action by the Council. Two decisions of the Commission were brought to the attention of the Council. Information concerning the programme budget implications of two of the draft resolutions was provided in an addendum to the report (E/1992/30/Add.1).

Implementation of General Assembly resolution 46/152 concerning operational activities and coordination in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice

12. At the 18th meeting, on 23 July, the Committee adopted draft resolution I, entitled "Implementation of General Assembly resolution 46/152 concerning operational activities and coordination in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice" (see para. 34 below, draft resolution I).

Organized crime

13. At the 18th meeting, on 23 July, the Committee adopted draft resolution II, entitled "Organized crime" (see para. 34 below, draft resolution II).

Preparations for the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

14. At the 18th meeting, on 23 July, the Committee adopted draft resolution III, entitled "Preparations for the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders" (see para. 34 below, draft resolution III).

Report of the Commission for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its first session and provisional agenda and documentation for the second session of the Commission

15. At the 18th meeting, on 23 July, the Committee adopted the draft decision entitled "Report of the Commission for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its first session and provisional agenda and documentation for the second session of the Commission" (see para. 35 below, draft decision I).

Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

16. At the 19th meeting, on 24 July, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee adopted a draft decision concerning chapter I, section B, of the report of the Commission on its first session (see para. 35 below, draft decision II).

Other proposals

The role of cooperatives in the light of new economic and social trends

17. At the 16th meeting, on 22 July, the representative of Costa Rica, on behalf also of Benin, Bolivia, 2/ Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, 2/ Ecuador, Guatemala, 2/ Honduras, 2/ Lebanon, 2/ Lesotho, Malawi, 2/ Mongolia, 2/ Morocco, Nicaragua, 2/ the Philippines, Poland, Togo and Viet Nam, 2/ introduced a draft resolution (E/1992/C.2/L.7) entitled "The role of cooperatives in the light of new economic and social trends", which read as follows:

"The Economic and Social Council,

"Recalling General Assembly resolution 44/58 of 8 December 1989, particularly paragraph 4, which requested the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States and relevant organizations of the United Nations system, to prepare a report on the status and role of cooperatives in the light of new economic and social trends,

"Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General on the status and role of cooperatives in the light of new economic and social trends, 3/

"Recognizing the importance of the policy-oriented research being undertaken by the United Nations Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs concerning the relevance of cooperatives to the achievement of the social policy objectives set forth in the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future, in respect to the execution of which it acts as focal point within the United Nations system,

"Bearing in mind that 1995 will mark the centenary of the establishment of the International Cooperative Alliance,

"Noting with satisfaction the important recommendations of the report directed towards ensuring the best possible means of dealing with the issue of cooperatives in the light of their broad significance in contributing to the solution of major economic and social problems,

"Welcoming the recommendation in paragraph 4 (a) of the report of the Secretary-General, and bearing in mind the substantial support shown by Governments and by the international cooperative movement for the idea

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2/ In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

3/ A/47/216-E/1992/43.

of proclaiming an international year of cooperatives, or alternatively, an international decade of cooperatives, and of observing an international day of cooperatives,

"Indicating its appreciation to government agencies, national organizations representing cooperatives, United Nations specialized agencies and other organizations, especially the Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives, for their valuable contribution,

"1. Commends the report of the Secretary-General on the status and role of cooperatives in the light of new economic and social trends; 3/

"2. Recommends that the General Assembly proclaim the year 1996 as the International Year of Cooperatives and that during 1995 an International Day of Cooperatives should be observed;

"3. Encourages the United Nations Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs to redouble its efforts of support and coordination in order to achieve the social policy objectives set forth in the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future, in respect to the execution of which it acts as focal point within the United Nations system;

"4. Invites government agencies, national organizations representing cooperatives, United Nations specialized agencies and other organizations, especially the Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives, to maintain and step up their programmes of support to the international cooperative movement;

"5. Also invites, as the Economic and Social Council has already done in its resolution 1668 (LII) of 1 June 1972, the United Nations specialized agencies that have a substantial interest in cooperatives, especially the World Bank, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, as well as other concerned international organizations of cooperatives that are not yet members of the Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives, to become members at an early date and to ensure its effectiveness by their contribution of appropriate resources;

"6. Recommends that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to maintain and step up the support provided by the United Nations to the programmes and objectives of the international cooperative movement and to submit a report on the implementation of this resolution, through the Economic and Social Council, to the Assembly at its forty-ninth session."

18. At the 19th meeting, on 24 July, the observer for Costa Rica, on behalf also of Benin, Bolivia, 2/ Canada, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, 2/ Ecuador, Guatemala, 2/ Guinea-Bissau, 2/ Honduras, 2/ Lebanon, 2/ Lesotho, 2/ Malawi, 2/ Mongolia, 2/ Morocco, Nicaragua, 2/ the Philippines, Poland, Togo, the United States of America and Viet Nam, 2/ introduced a revised draft resolution (E/1992/C.2/L.7/Rev.1).

19. At the same meeting, the Chairman informed the Committee that the revised draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

20. The Committee then adopted the revised draft resolution (see para. 34 below, draft resolution IV).

World social situation

21. At the 17th meeting, on 23 July, the representative of Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77), introduced a draft resolution (E/1992/C.2/L.9) entitled "World social situation".

22. At the 19th meeting, on 24 July, the representative of Pakistan (on behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77) orally revised operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution by replacing the phrase "and to analyse in depth the economic problems of the developing countries and the impact of those problems on the world social situation" with the phrase "and to analyse in depth the impact of the economic problems of the developing countries on the world social situation".

23. At the 20th meeting, on 27 July, the representative of Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77) further orally revised the draft resolution by inserting a new preambular paragraph between the first and second preambular paragraphs, which read as follows:

> "Acknowledging the relationship between development, including social development, and the enjoyment by everyone of economic, social and cultural rights, as well as civil and political rights, and recognizing the importance of creating the conditions whereby everyone may enjoy these rights, as set out in the International Covenants on Human Rights".

24. The Committee then adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see para. 34 below, draft resolution V).

25. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of the United States of America made a statement.

Social development

26. At the 17th meeting, on 23 July, the representative of Chile, on behalf also of Azerbaijan, 2/ Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, the Bahamas, 2/ Bangladesh, Barbados, 2/ Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, 2/ Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, 2/ Canada, Cape Verde, 2/ Chad, 2/ China, Colombia, the Congo, 2/ Costa Rica, 2/ Côte d'Ivoire, 2/ Cuba, 2/ Cyprus, 2/ Czechoslovakia, 2/ Denmark, 2/ Ecuador, Egypt, 2/ El Salvador, 2/ Estonia, 2/ Ethiopia, Finland, France, Ghana, 2/ Greece, 2/ Guatemala, 2/ Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, 2/ Haiti, 2/ Honduras, 2/ Hungary, 2/ Iceland, 2/ India, Indonesia, 2/ the Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, 2/ Ireland, 2/ Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, 2/ Kenya, 2/ Lebanon, 2/ Lesotho, 2/ the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, 2/ Liechtenstein, 2/ Luxembourg, 2/ Madagascar, Malawi, 2/ Malaysia, Mali, 2/ Malta, 2/ Mauritania, 2/ Mexico, Mongolia, 2/ Morocco, Myanmar, 2/ Namibia, 2/ Nepal, 2/ the Netherlands, 2/ New Zealand, 2/ Nicaragua, 2/ the Niger, 2/ Nigeria, 2/ Norway, 2/ Pakistan, Panama, 2/ Papua New Guinea, 2/ Paraguay, 2/ Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, 2/ the Republic of Korea, 2/ Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, 2/ Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, 2/ Samoa, 2/ Sao Tome and Principe, 2/ Senegal, 2/ Seychelles, 2/ Sierra Leone, 2/ Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, 2/ Turkey, Uganda, 2/ Ukraine, 2/ the United Republic of Tanzania, 2/ the United States of America, Uruguay, 2/ Venezuela, 2/ Yemen, 2/ Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia 2/ and Zimbabwe, 2/ introduced a draft resolution (E/1992/C.2/L.10) entitled "Social development". Subsequently, Botswana, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Viet Nam 2/ joined in sponsoring the draft resolution. The Secretary of the Committee orally corrected the draft resolution.

27. At the 19th meeting, on 24 July, the Chairman informed the Committee that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

28. The Committee then adopted the draft resolution (see para. 34 below, draft resolution VI).

29. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of Germany made a statement.

Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons

30. At the 17th meeting, on 23 July, the representative of the Philippines, on behalf also of Austria, China, Costa Rica, 2/ Morocco, Peru, Poland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, introduced a draft decision (E/1992/C.2/L.8) entitled "Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons". Subsequently, Australia, France, Italy, Japan and Spain joined in sponsoring the draft decision.

31. At the 19th meeting, on 24 July, the representative of the Philippines orally revised the draft decision by replacing the words "including the proposed terms of reference of the Fund, as contained in ..." with the words "including the terms of reference of the Fund, on the basis of ...".

32. At the same meeting, the Chairman informed the Committee that the draft decision, as orally revised, had no programme budget implications.

33. The Committee then adopted the draft decision, as orally revised (see para. 35 below, draft decision III).

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE

34. The Social Committee recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

[FOR THE TEXT OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS I-III, SEE THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE (E/1992/30), CHAP. I, SECT. A.]

DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

The role of cooperatives in the light of new economic and social trends

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 44/58 of 8 December 1989, particularly paragraph 4, in which the Secretary-General was requested, in consultation with Member States and relevant organizations of the United Nations system, to prepare a report on the status and role of cooperatives in the light of new economic and social trends,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General on the status and role of cooperatives in the light of new economic and social trends, 4/

Recognizing the importance of the policy-oriented research being undertaken by the United Nations Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs concerning the relevance of cooperatives to the achievement of the social policy objectives set forth in the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future, in the execution of which it acts as focal point within the United Nations system,

Bearing in mind that 1995 will mark the centenary of the establishment of the International Cooperative Alliance,

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4/ A/47/216-E/1992/43.

Noting with satisfaction the important recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General directed towards ensuring the best possible means of dealing with the issue of cooperatives in the light of their broad significance in contributing to the solution of major economic and social problems,

Welcoming the recommendation contained in paragraph 4 (a) of the report of the Secretary-General, and bearing in mind the substantial support shown by Governments and by the international cooperative movement for the idea of observing an international day of cooperatives,

Indicating its appreciation to government agencies, national organizations representing cooperatives, United Nations specialized agencies and other organizations, especially the Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives, for their valuable contribution,

1. Notes with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General on the status and role of cooperatives in the light of new economic and social trends; 4/

2. Recommends that the General Assembly proclaim an international day of cooperatives to be observed on the first Saturday in July 1995, marking the centenary of the International Cooperative Alliance, and that it consider the possibility of observing an international day in future years;

3. Encourages Governments to consider fully the potential of cooperatives for contributing to the solution of economic, social and environmental problems in formulating national development strategies;

4. Encourages the United Nations Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs to redouble its efforts of support and coordination in order to achieve the social policy objectives set forth in the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future;

5. Invites government agencies, national organizations representing cooperatives, United Nations specialized agencies and other organizations, especially the Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives, to maintain and increase their programmes of support to the international cooperative movement, to the extent possible within existing resources;

6. Also invites, as the Economic and Social Council has already done in its resolution 1668 (LII) of 1 June 1972, the United Nations specialized agencies that have a substantial interest in cooperatives, especially the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, as well as other organizations, especially the World Bank, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, and other concerned international organizations of cooperatives that are not yet members of the Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives, to become members at an early date in order to ensure its effectiveness by their contribution of appropriate resources;

7. Recommends that the General Assembly, to the extent possible within existing resources, request the Secretary-General to maintain and increase the support provided by the United Nations to the programmes and objectives of the international cooperative movement and, in his next report on the status and role of cooperatives in the light of new economic and social trends, to indicate the progress made towards that goal.

DRAFT RESOLUTION V

World social situation

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1989/72 of 24 May 1989 and 1991/4 of 30 May 1991 and General Assembly resolution 46/95 of 16 December 1991,

Acknowledging the relationship between development, including social development, and the enjoyment by everyone of economic, social and cultural rights, as well as civil and political rights, and recognizing the importance of creating the conditions whereby everyone may enjoy these rights, as set out in the International Covenants on Human Rights,

Noting that in paragraph 4 of its resolution 1991/4 the Secretary-General was requested to reorient the draft framework for the 1993 report on the world social situation 5/ so that it was in consonance with the requests set forth in paragraph 4 of its resolution 1989/72, and to submit it to the Council for consideration at its substantive session of 1992,

Bearing in mind the importance of a well-balanced report on the world social situation for increasing international awareness of the efforts being made towards achieving the goals of social progress and better standards of living, established in the Charter of the United Nations, as well as of the obstacles to further progress,

Deeply concerned by the continued worsening of the economic situation in many developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, as evidenced by the significant decline in living conditions, the persistence and increase of widespread poverty in a large number of those countries and the decline of their main social and economic indicators,

Bearing in mind that certain developing countries have been able to achieve some economic and social progress,

Having considered the draft framework for the 1993 report on the world social situation, contained in the report of the Secretary-General, 5/

5/ A/46/56-E/1991/6 and Corr.1, annex.

1. Notes that in the preparation of the draft framework for the 1993 report on the world social situation efforts have been made to reorient it in accordance with the requests of the Council and the General Assembly;

2. Reaffirms the request set forth in paragraph 4 of Council resolution 1989/72 that, in preparing the next report on the world social situation, the Secretary-General give high priority to an analysis of the main indicators of social progress and standards of living and make a comprehensive analysis of the main causes and circumstances that explain negative trends in those indicators, and reaffirms also that chapters devoted to the study of specific social problems must be related to global economic and social situations, taking into account both national and international conditions;

3. Requests the Secretary-General, in preparing the 1993 report, to also take into account the intrinsic relationship between economic growth and social development and to analyse in depth the impact of the economic problems of the developing countries on the world social situation;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, through the Economic and Social Council, the 1993 report on the world social situation.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VI

Social development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 46/139 of 17 December 1991 and Economic and Social Council decision 1991/230 of 30 May 1991,

Welcoming the appointment by the Secretary-General of a Special Representative to assist him in the consultations requested by the Council in decision 1991/230,

Bearing in mind the need to involve the appropriate organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, in particular the Commission for Social Development, in the preparations for the proposed world summit for social development,

Noting the statement made by the President of the Economic and Social Council at the conclusion of the high-level segment of the Council, on 8 July 1992, that there was broad support for a summit,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General 6/ on the consultations requested by the Economic and Social Council in decision 1991/230,

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6/ E/1992/80.

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General and the positive outcome of the consultations on the possibility of convening a world summit for social development;

2. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General and the Special Representative for their efforts in carrying out a comprehensive process of consultation on this matter;

3. Recommends that the General Assembly convene a world summit for social development, at the level of head of State or Government, to be held in early 1995;

4. Further recommends that the General Assembly, at its forty-seventh session, take action on the proposed summit including appropriate decisions on its agenda, means of preparation and other relevant modalities;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to carry out consultations on the present resolution and present an oral report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session.

35. The Social Committee also recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

[FOR THE TEXT OF DRAFT DECISION I, SEE THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE (E/1992/30), CHAP. I, SECT. B.]

DRAFT DECISION II

Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The Economic and Social Council decides that the draft decision it adopted with regard to chapter I, section B, of the report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its first session includes the resolutions calling for action by the Council as detailed in chapter I, section C of that report.

DRAFT DECISION III

Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons

The Economic and Social Council, having considered the note by the Secretary-General on the continuation of the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons, 7/ recommends to the General Assembly, in response to its resolution 45/91 of 14 December 1990, the adoption of the proposal of the Secretary-General to continue in the period beyond the Decade the operation of the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons, henceforth to be called the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Disability, including the terms of reference of the Fund, on the basis of paragraph 10 of the note.

7/ E/1992/50.